

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

By this paper, claims 45-55 remain pending, (claims 1-44 are cancelled and new claims 45-55 have been added), as reflected below.

Sub B' > 1-44. Cancelled.

45. (New) A system for receiving electronic program guide (EPG) data from one or more EPG data providers in one or more data formats and for providing consolidated EPG data available in a standardized format to one or more applications running on the system, comprising:

an EPG services module for receiving EPG data from the one or more EPG data providers and providing consolidated EPG data in a standardized format to the one or more applications residing on the system, the EPG services module comprising:

one or more EPG loader modules with a separate EPG loader module for each EPG data source, each EPG loader module being configured to receive EPG data from an EPG data provider in a native format used by the EPG data provider and including computer executable instructions for converting the EPG data received from the EPG data provider from its native format to a standardized format compatible with the EPG services module and the one or more applications;

an EPG writer module logically connected to each of the one or more EPG loader modules with computer executable instructions for

collecting the EPG data in the standardized format from the one or more EPG loader modules; and

writing at least a portion of the EPG data to a storage associated with the system; and

an EPG control module having computer executable instructions for receiving requests for EPG data from the one or more applications; retrieving the EPG data responsive to the request from the storage; and

returning the requested EPG data to the one or more applications;

and

an application program interface configured to provide a standardized interface between the EPG control module and the one or more applications requiring EPG data,

such that the system can be readily modified to add additional EPG data providers, to remove existing EPG data providers, or to accommodate changes in the native formats of existing or future EPG data providers without having to modify or update the code of any of the one or more applications.

46. (New) A system as defined in claim 45, wherein the writer module further comprises computer executable instructions for scaling the collected EPG data according to factors provided by a user before writing the EPG data to the storage.

47. (New) A system as defined in claim 45, wherein the writer module further comprises computer executable instructions for scaling the collected EPG data according to at least one of the following factors provided by a user before writing the EPG data to the storage: time; language; richness; channels, and services.

48. (New) A system as defined in claim 45, wherein the writer module further comprises computer executable instructions for resolving conflicts between EPG data received from two or more EPG data providers.

49. (New) A system as defined in claim 45, wherein the one or more loader modules further comprise computer executable instructions for implementing a priority scheme.

50. (New) A system as defined in claim 45, wherein the EPG writer module further comprises computer executable instructions for limiting the amount of the EPG data that may be placed in the storage.

51. (New) A system as defined in claim 50, wherein the EPG writer module further comprises computer executable instructions for removing expired EPG data from the storage.

52. (New) A system as defined in claim 51, wherein the EPG writer module further comprises computer executable instructions for keeping the last EPG data stored to a particular portion of the storage.

53. (New) A system as defined in claim 45, wherein the storage is a database.

54. (New) A system as defined in claim 45, wherein the one or more EPG loader modules further comprises computer executable instructions for recording EPG data with digital recordings of programming represented by the EPG data.

55. (New) A system as defined in claim 45, wherein each of the EPG loader modules is capable of being added to the device and removed from the device.